A Panorama of the

U. S. NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL

CHAPEL HILL · NORTH CAROLINA

The publishers wish to extend their sincere thanks to Commander John P. Graff, Commanding Officer, Lieut. Commander James P. Raugh, Executive Officer, Lieut. P. O. Brewer, Public Relations Officer, and the entire officer personnel of the Chapel Hill Pre-Flight School for their co-operation, suggestions, and advice which have made this book possible.

Merin-Baliban.

WITH THE

Cloudbusters

AT THE

UNITED STATES NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

(UNIT OF NAVAL AIR PRIMARY COMMAND)

SECOND EDITION

PUBLISHED BY MERIN-BALIBAN STUDIOS OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE CHAPEL HILL PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL

From original painting
by Cadet Gene Aiello

The Will and the Skill to Win

■ To produce top-notch pilots who can outfight, outfly and outlast any enemy they may encounter . . . that is the purpose of the U. S. Naval Aviation training program.

■ Of all the improved war training programs, none is more carefully planned, more rigorously administered, or more successful in the accomplishment of its objectives than the physical training course for naval aviators.

■ Hub of the Navy's physical training program is the Pre-Flight School, offering courses in ATHLETIC, MILITARY and ACADEMIC subjects. In addition to the school at Chapel Hill, N. C., there are four others located at Athens, Ga., Iowa City, Ia., St. Mary's, Cal., and Del Monte, Cal.

■ The cadets of today are the fighting aviators of tomorrow. Pre-Flight training is an important phase in the program planned to develop within them both the WILL and the SKILL to win.

NAME _____

RECORD

Insert your
photograph here

P 26478

NAVY

V5

Autographs

JOHN S. McCAIN
Vice-Admiral, U.S.N.
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations
(Air)

ELLIOTT BUCKMASTER
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.
Chief of Naval Air Primary Training

FRANK H. WICKHORST
Lieutenant Commander, U.S.N.R.
Head of Pre-Flight and
Physical Training Section
Aviation Training Division

The Skipper

JOHN P. GRAFF
Commander, U.S.N. (Ret.)
Commanding Officer

■ Commander John P. Graff, U.S.N. (Ret.), Commanding Officer of the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, has figured prominently in the growth of this School from its inception in the Spring of 1942. He was the first line officer to arrive here and directed much of the organizational work involved in establishing this new Naval Station. As the School's first Executive Officer, he was responsible for administering the policies set forth by the first Commanding Officer, Commander O. O. Kessing, U.S.N.

■ Commander Graff entered the U. S. Naval Academy in June, 1916, and was graduated in 1919 (Class of 1920). While a midshipman he served seven months at sea during the First World War, and at Annapolis rowed on the Naval Academy Varsity Crew, intercollegiate champions in 1919.

■ After graduation he served successively in the transport USS Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, the battleship USS Nevada, and the destroyer USS Reuben James. He holds the Victory Medal with Atlantic Fleet clasp and the German Occupation Medal.

■ Late in 1923 and while still serving in the Reuben James, he was taken ill and transferred to the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, and in 1924 was retired from active duty with the rank of lieutenant junior grade.

■ In March, 1942, Commander Graff was ordered to active service as a Lieutenant (jg) and assigned to this Pre-Flight School as Executive Officer. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander in July, and in November when Commander O. O. Kessing, U.S.N., was ordered to duty afloat, he was placed in command and promoted to the rank of Commander.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JAMES P. RAUGH
Lieut. Commander, U.S.N.R.
Executive Officer

Administration building of the Pre-Flight School is Alexander Hall.

Athletics

■ The roll call of athletic activities in the Pre-Flight program includes an impressive array of sports designed to develop the best physically equipped pilots in the world.

■ Swimming, football, boxing, wrestling, hand-to-hand combat, military track, soccer, gymnastics and tumbling, basketball, labor engineering, and pushball all contribute their bit toward preparing the cadets for the real fight ahead.

■ There is no sport for sport's sake. All are planned for the utilitarian purpose of developing desirable combat characteristics in the participants. Squadron competition is the keystone of the athletic work and the accent is on combative sports which help to stimulate endurance, agility, teamwork, and an aggressive desire to come out on top.

■ So that the benefits will accrue to all, every cadet plays every sport.

BURTON A. INGWERSEN
Lieut. Commander, U.S.N.R.
Athletic Director

Woollen gymnasium serves os headquarters far the athletic department staff. Its swimming paol is one af the finest in the country.

A dozen sports are represented os Pre-Flight cadets swing olong in athletic geor.

Swimming

■ If there's one physical activity a Navy man should know something about—it's SWIMMING. Water mastery, as taught by experts at the Navy's Pre-Flight Schools, provides instruction and practice which assures that valuable pilots will not be needlessly lost through inability to swim under hazardous conditions of battle. Lessons of war require that the aims of swimming instruction be changed from specialization and speed to that of teaching men to stay afloat for unusually long periods of time, swimming fully clothed, underwater, and while exposed to combat risks they may encounter some day.

1. Cadets maneuver, learning use of kapok life jackets.

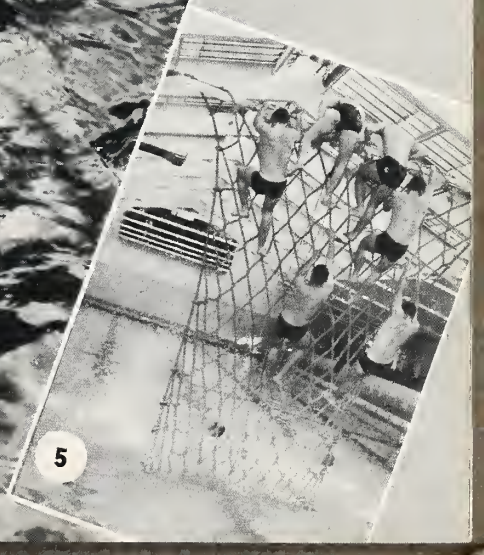
2. Keeping the powder dry is important.

3. "Abandon Ship!" is the cry, and the scramble is on.

4. Knowing how to handle rubber life rafts is essential knowledge for men of the sea.

5. Climbing a cargo net with slippery hands and feet is useful practice for later.

6. Life saving skill may some day save a buddy.



Football & Soccer

■ FOOTBALL ranks high among the bodily contact sports as a physical conditioner. Pigskin play here is an all year 'round activity, and like the other sports in the curriculum is participated in by all cadets. While the exact technique involved in the grid game will have little direct application in actual naval aviation combat, there are certain qualities desirable in an aviator that can be developed through the medium of football—aggressiveness (mental and physical), physical fitness, coordination, alertness, discipline, teamwork, toughness, quick reactions.

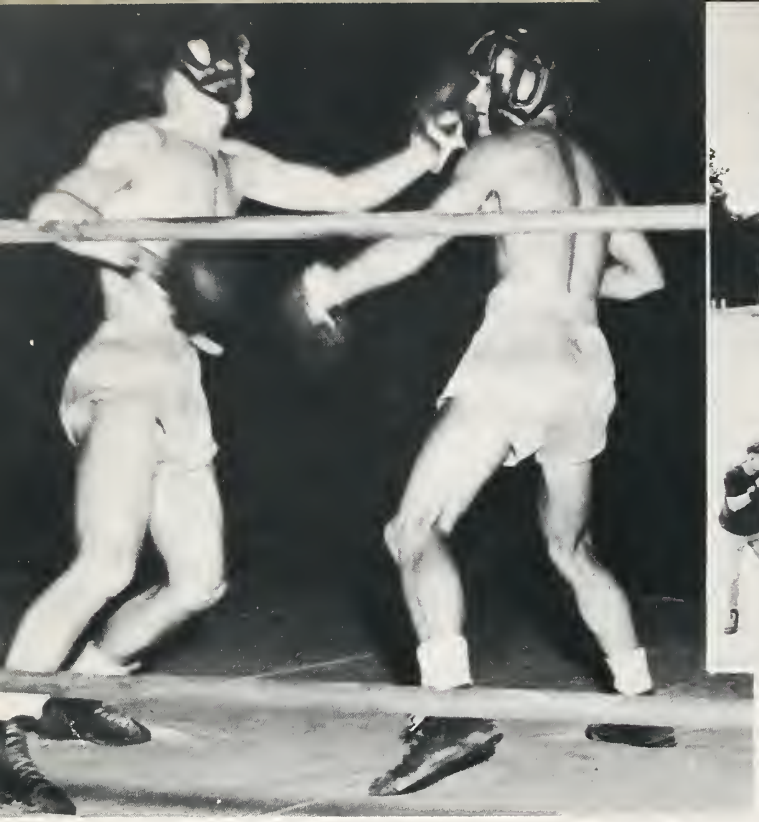
■ SOCCER conditions men and develops use of the feet through the extensive running it requires. Agility, ruggedness, endurance and quick thinking are all nourished by this sport.

■ To liquidate an opponent through attack directed at the most vulnerable parts of the body is the aim of HAND TO HAND combat. Emphasis is placed upon a vigorous and violent counter-attack to overcome an assailant who may be armed with a gun, knife, blackjack or riot stick, or who has otherwise gained a temporary advantage.

■ American style ot WRESTLING, it has been proved, is superior to the highly touted Japanese jiu-jitsu. Pre-Flight cadets learn early that scientific execution is more effective than brute force.

THRU

The Obstacle Course Develops
Endurance, Agility and Courage

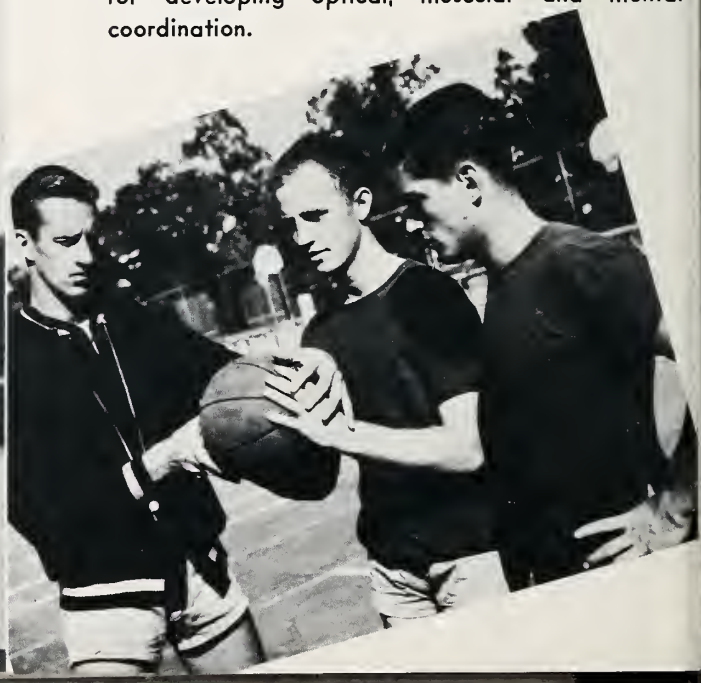


Boxing

■ Boxing, a sport as old as war itself, provides in its elements of individual combat a close parallel to the battle conditions that a pilot must face. The feint, the dodge, the counter thrust, and the sudden devastating finishing blow are as much a part of air fighting as they are of boxing.

Basketball

■ Basketball, the fast moving court game played indoors or outdoors—according to the season and weather—is important because of its premium on individual competitive skill, aggressiveness, physical stamina and team play. It is particularly valuable for developing optical, muscular and mental coordination.

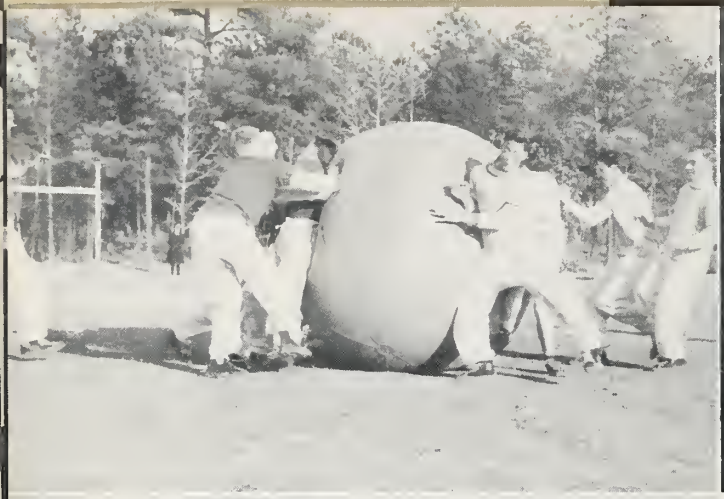


■ Gym-Tumbling trains the native sense of balance, giving the future pilot skill and muscular control to free himself from emergency situations requiring vaulting, tumbling and balance. It accustoms the cadet to being upside down, as in the human wheel pictured here.

■ Preceding competitive physical activities, mass exercise limbers up those muscles for action.

■ Sport? Besides building up muscles, labor engineering provides cadets with knowledge that may come in handy hacking through a jungle someday. It develops strength, stamina, and good work habits, in addition to skills for emergencies.

Athletics



Pushball

■ A highly competitive team game, pushball is one of the roughest, knock-'em-down games played by Pre-Flighters. It's not a mudpack beauty treatment those cadets are displaying—just the aftermath of a pushball game played in rainy weather.

Baseball

■ Baseball is played only as a varsity sport at the Pre-Flight School. It's good entertainment, too, as shown by the packed stands at one of the games between the Cloudbusters and Tars from the Naval Training Station, Norfolk, Va.

A Regimental Review in Kenan Stadium sparkles with precise military movements.

LLOYD R. SAUER
Lieut. Commander, U.S.N.R.
Officer-in-Charge, Cadet Regiment

Military

■ The Military department directs the daily routine of the cadets, their organization, discipline and indoctrination into naval life.

■ Included in this phase of Pre-Flight training are infantry drill, seamanship, ordnance, gunnery, climatology, aerology, radio code and communications, first aid, hiking and self-preservation.

■ Cadets learn to stand watch as on board ship where the safety of entire crew may depend on the alertness of the "watch".

■ They learn to give orders by first learning to follow them precisely and promptly.

1. Various types of small arms became familiar to cadets during their military training at Pre-Flight School. Pistol, rifle, sub-machine gun, automatic rifle and small machine gun are the implements of death.

2. One of the handiest of weapons is the sub-machine gun. Grounded fliers may some day have good chance to put knowledge of this potent death-dealer to work.

3. Marines, noted for their markmanship, show the cadets how it's done.

4. On the firing range.

5. Port arms.

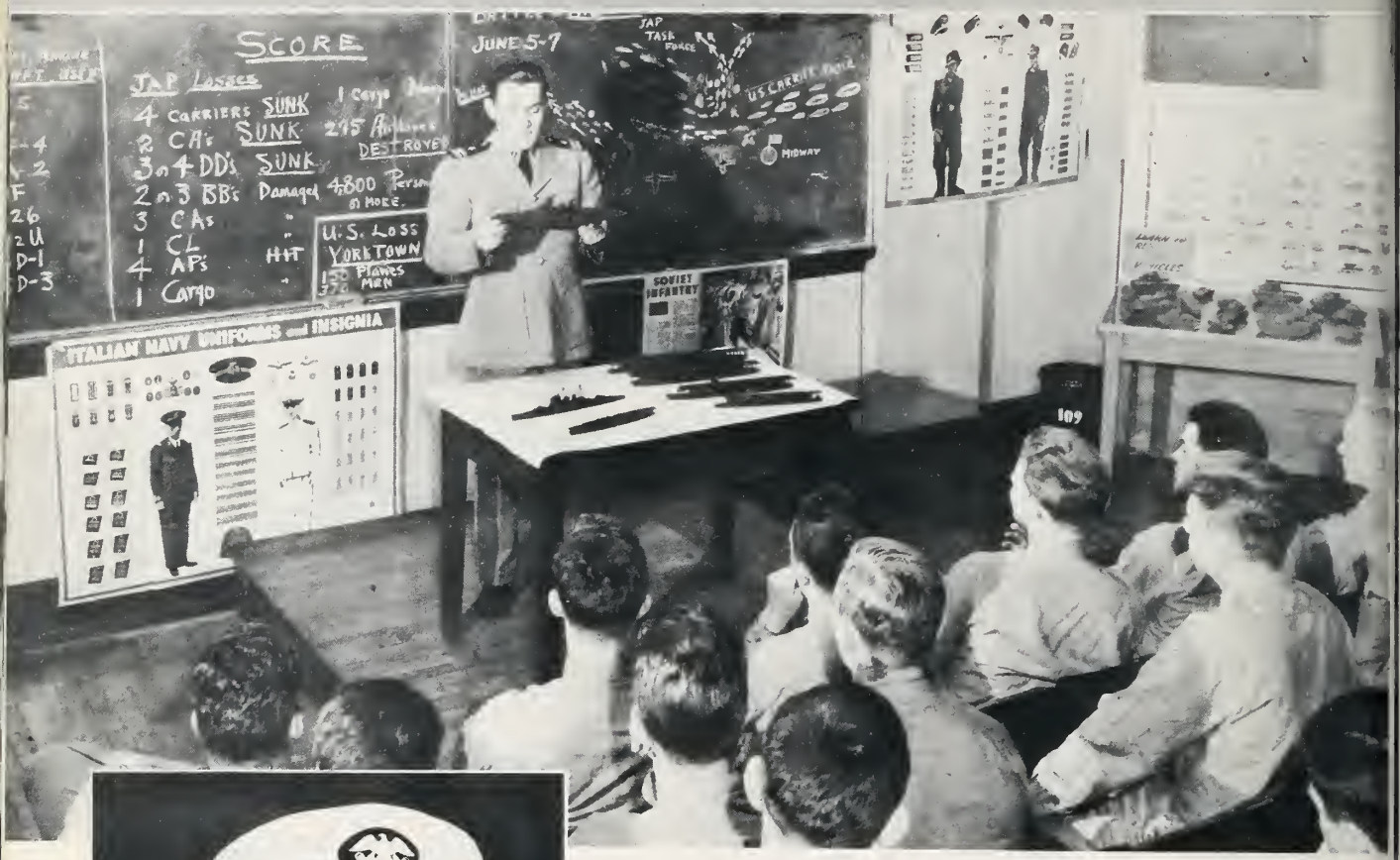
1. Dit-dat-dit runs thraugh their minds as they take a lesson in radia code.

2. How ta cammunicate with signal flags will be useful knawledge abaard a carrier.

3. Hat dogs deserve a caaling. Tired toatsies are given a welcame respite after a fourteen mile hike.

4. Hut shelters pratect cadets standing security watch during unpleasant weather.

5. On the march, a parade af whites.



Lessons learned from past battles are discussed in the classroom so that the future fighting fliers may benefit from the experiences of others.

HOWARD L. HAMILTON
Lieut. Commander, U.S.N.R.
Head, Academic Department

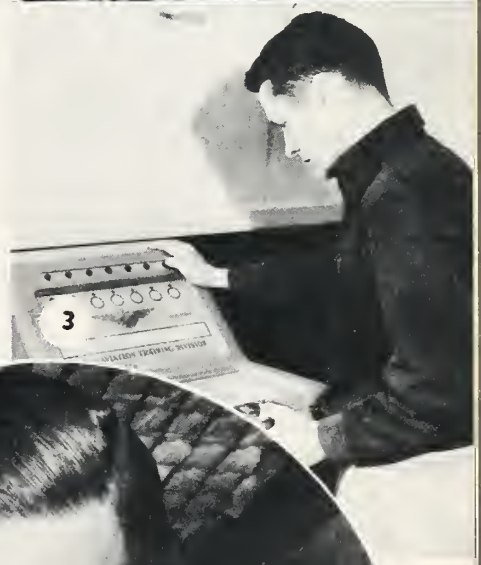
■ While the athletic phase of Pre-Flight training is perhaps more spectacular, Academics or classroom work is every bit as important in molding future naval officers and aviators. Not only must the Navyators be physically toughened and in prime condition, but they must be mentally alert to meet the emergencies that warfare brings. They must be able to think quickly, know what to do and how to do it.

■ Pre-Flight classroom work, in addition to training the cadets for the leadership required of naval officers, prepares a solid foundation for advanced ground school instruction to come at primary and advanced flight bases.

■ The Academic curriculum consists of Essentials of Naval Service, three hours a week, Nomenclature and Recognition, three hours a week, and Celestial Navigation, six hours weekly. In addition, advanced Aerology, though included in the military phase of Pre-Flight instruction, is taught by the academic staff two periods weekly.

■ Rough, tough and SMART is the Pre-Flight theme.

Academic



1. Cockpit instruction familiorizes the codets with intricote instruments used in operoting modern worplones.

2. Accurate plone, ship ond tonk models in the Synthetic Devices building ore studied by codets during their leisure hours.

3. A novel Synthetic Device that hos oll the lure of o pinball machine provides amusement for cadets and at the some time tests their knowledge of plone ond ship identification.

4. Plenty of study is usually required to stoy obove the criticol 2.5 mark.

DEANE H. VANCE
Commander (MC), U.S.N. (Ret.)
Senior Medical Officer

The new Navy Hospital provides the finest modern facilities for treating injuries and ailments.

Health

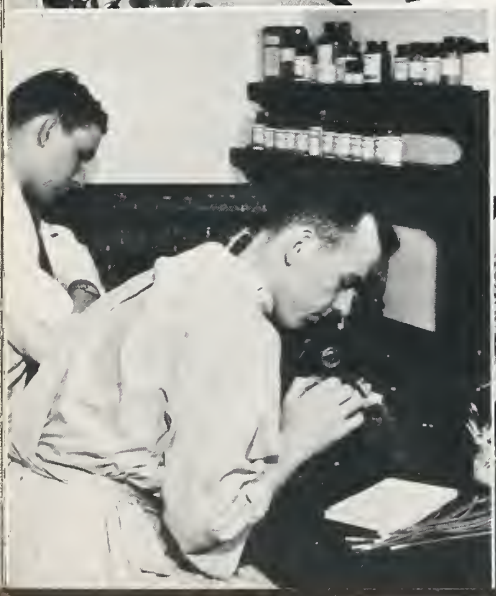
■ The GOOD HEALTH of officers, cadets and crew is protected by the professional medical staff which has the latest technical knowledge and equipment at its disposal.

1. Cavities and oral troubles are treated promptly, so toothaches are rare.

2. Laboratory technicians use the microscope in the search for enemies invisible to the naked eye.

3. Modern X-ray equipment is at hand with its penetrating vision.

4. The Navy nurse lends cheer and care to a hospitalized cadet.



Religion

■ Religious opportunity and development form an integral part of the naval activity.

Chapel service is conducted each Sunday morning by the Navy Chaplain, with hymns provided by an all cadet choir.

special ond solemn occosion for ne Cotholics is a high military moss eld in Kenon Stodium.

omforting the sick is an importont aily function of the Chaploin.

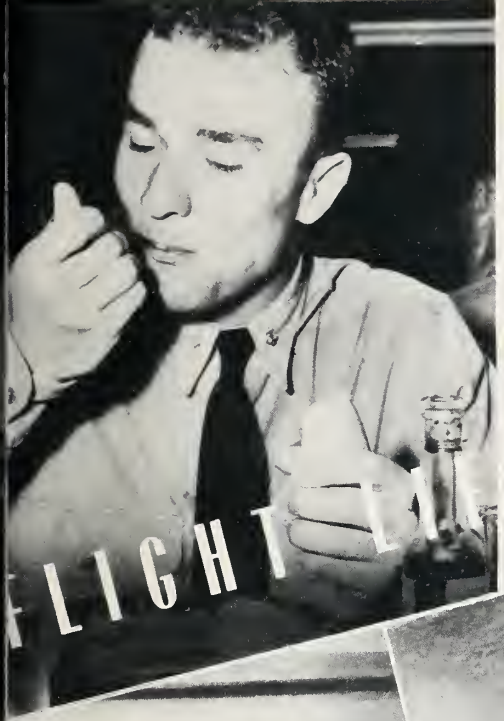
Deep religious and ortistic feeling find expression in a pastel pointing of o chopel scene by Codet Harold E. Raveche, Jr., of the 26th Battalion. The images of fomous naval heroes ore depicted at the top of the chapel, ond through the observing cadet's mind runs the proyerful thought: "Thot I Might Have the Courage to Follow . . . "

Soon os Navy buses complete the last leg of the journey to Chapel Hill, the new cadets fall in an the lower parade. A year aga, mast of the cadets come straight from civilian life; naw they are prepared for Pre-Flight by caurses at Flight Preporatary ond War Training Schaols.

The newcamers are afficially logged aboard in front of Alexander Hall.

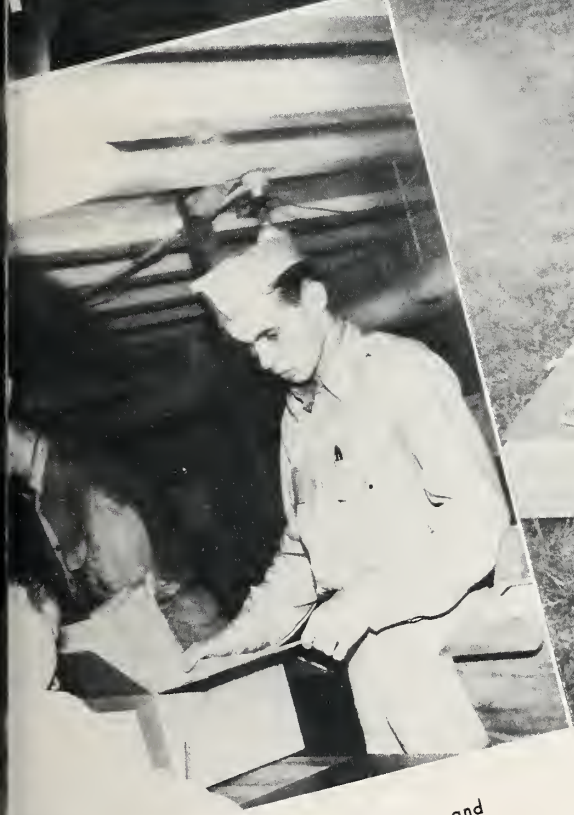
Random Views OF PRE-

Then it's off to their darms they ga, beginning a new phase of their novol oviotion troining.



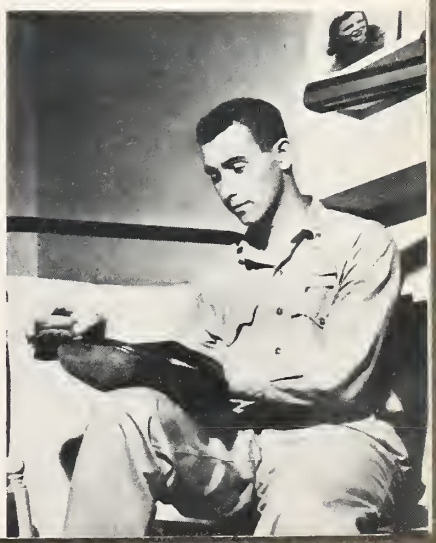
Stowing owoy 5,000 colories daily is a fovorite octivity of the Pre-Flight codet.

FLIGHT LINE...



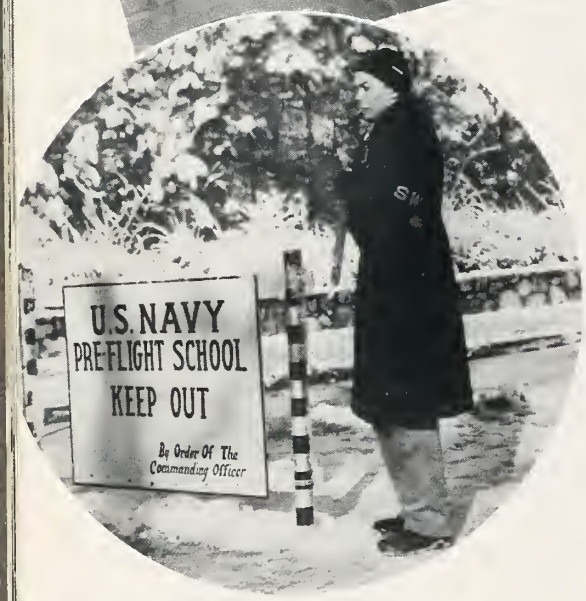
The rush is on at Small Stores as uniforms and gear are drawn.

Last anything? Those wha have often find it in the Lucky Bag at the Cadets Stare. A few of the contents are shown here.



Keeping the footgeor shiny is a never ending, but very necessory jab.

This line-up in whites for the Captain's Sunday inspection is a familiar scene from an unusual angle.



Security Watch carries on during one of Chapel Hill's infrequent snow falls.

The pack test routine is familiar to every cadet.

Free cokes are always on hand at dances held monthly for the Regiment.

The glee club gives opportunity for exercising those vocal chords and provides smooth entertainment at station functions as well.

Lighter moments during liberty hours include ping pong play in Navy Hall.

CLOUD BUSTER

Vol. 1—No. 44 U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N. C. Saturday, July 24, 1943

Captain O. O. Kessing Awarded Navy and Marine Corps Medal

Former "Skipper" at This Station Gets Citation

Captain O. O. Kessing, USN, first commanding officer at this Pre-Flight School, was recently awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism following an attack by Japanese bombing planes on Helava, Solomon Islands, February 29, 1943.

Captain Kessing was detached from this station last November, and ordered to duty in the South Pacific Area.

Rear Admiral T. S. Wilkinson, commander of the South Pacific Area, read the following citation at the ceremony of presentation:

"For heroism following an attack by Japanese bombing planes on Helava, Solomon Islands, on February 29, 1943. On the bomb set afire a supply and ammunition dump at Helava. Captain Kessing then on Tulagi, Capital, observing the fire, called a party organized the fire-fighting party, organized the fire-fighting party, which proceeded by boat to Helava immediately and with regard for his personal safety, he directed his personal and boat crew in fighting the fire. Due to the voluntary leadership of Captain Kessing and another Naval officer, the fire was finally extinguished, thereby preventing further loss of vital supplies."

See KESSING, page 4

High Scoring Games Mark Softball Play

The second half of the Pre-Flight softball season opened last Wednesday with a flurry of 78 runs being scored.

Most runs of the day were scored by the Lexington officers' team. The Lexington team, champions of the first half of the season, were overwhelmed by the Enterprise, 24-4.

The Enterprise team chalked up the next highest score in defeating the Hospital Corps, 20-2.

In other games played, the Saratoga surprise turned back Company 12-4, and the Ranger pushed over eight runs in the final frame to beat the Satellites 12-8.

Games scheduled for next Wednesday are: Lexington vs. Ranger, vs. Enterprise; Saratoga, vs. Satellites, and Company vs. Hospital Corps.

Cloudbusters to Play in Yankee Stadium

Selected on the basis of their season record of 21 victories in 22 starts, the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight Cloudbusters will participate in a novel double-header at Yankee Stadium on Wednesday afternoon.

The New York Yankees and Cleveland Indians will play the first game, then the two American League clubs will combine their baseball talent to play the Cloudbusters.

Last year the Yankees rolled over the Cloudbusters, 8-0, before 79,248 in the Yankee Stadium.

Even give-a-way exhibitions of the Cloudbusters, Babe Ruth, Walter Johnson and Umpire Billy Evans are a new Babe Ruth record 370,000 at a similar benefit day of the game, then will return on Wednesday morning, the Pre-Flight planes call for the Cloudbusters to leave here Tuesday night and arrive in New York on Wednesday morning, the day of the game. They will return on Wednesday morning, the All the proceeds from the game, which is expected to draw another banner crowd, will be turned over to the Red Cross, War Relief, and Service Funds.

New Cadet Regimental Officers Named

New cadet regimental officers selected from members of the seventh 22th Battalion are Charles L. Carry, Shellman, Ga., regimental commander; Lester H. Merrill, Jr., Columbia, S. C., regimental executive officer; William A. Turner, Brownsville, Tex., regimental adjutant and Mack P. Ezell, Jr., Efland, N. C., regimental petty officer.

Next Station Smoker to Be Minstrel Show

The next station smoker, scheduled for Friday, July 30, on Emerson Field, will be a minstrel show featuring the cadet glee club.

Lt. Comdr. Carruthers Detached

DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS were in order in the above picture which shows Lt. Comdr. T. J. Carruthers, USNR, left, shaking hands with Lt. Comdr. T. J. Carruthers, USNR, Lt. Comdr. Carruthers, who was First Lieutenant here, was detached from this station on Monday and ordered to report to ComTraeLn, San Francisco, California. Lt. Hoover, who was assistant coach here in Military and Varsity Track, has been named to succeed Mr. Carruthers as First Lieutenant.

Lt. Comdr. Carruthers was stationed in Chapel Hill over a year. Before being made First Lieutenant early this year, he served as Business Manager of Athletics. Lt. Hoover, who was assistant football coach and varsity track coach at the University of Tennessee before being commissioned in the Navy, has been stationed here since last December.

Movie Schedule

July 24—Free movie at the Village Theatre, "The Desperadoes" (technicolor) with Randolph Scott and Glenn Ford. Show starts at 1345, 1930 and 2102. Complete show 1 hour and 25 minutes.

July 25—Free movie at the Village Theatre with Jean Arthur and Fred MacMurray. Show starts at 1310 and 1502. Complete show 1 hour and 52 minutes.

Keeping personnel posted is the CLOUD-BUSTER, station newspaper published every Saturday.

Bringing in the harvest from the Pre-Flight Victory Garden is all in a summer day's work at Chapel Hill. Yellow Bantam corn gathered today will appear on the cadet menu tomorrow.

Popular with the cadets, and a constant companion, is this good natured bird dog, Dan.

Popular with all hands at the Pre-Flight School is the swing section of the all Negro band which turns out the rhythms at recreational affairs.

Included among the high ranking naval officers to visit the station was Rear Admiral Elliott P. Buckmaster, U.S.N., Chief of Naval Air Primary Training (center) shown inspecting cadet quarters with Comdr. Jahn P. Graff, U.S.N. (Ret.), Commanding Officer.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Ralph A. Bard, drapped in to see how fledgling aviators are toughened up for the fight ahead.

Thru these Portals HAVE PASSED...

■ During the first year of the Pre-Flight School's operation, a host of well-known figures and personalities came to visit, view the program, or to entertain the cadets.

Major Joseph J. Foss, USMCR, leading American ace of the present war, told cadets that teamwork is essential for success in the air.

The old Manassa Mauler, Jack Dempsey, now a lieutenant commander in charge of physical training for the Coast Guard at Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn, N. Y., climbed into the ring to referee tarrid bauts at a station Smoker.

Col. Roane Waring, National Commander of the American Legion, sounded warning against optimism and predicted a long hard battle before final victory is won.

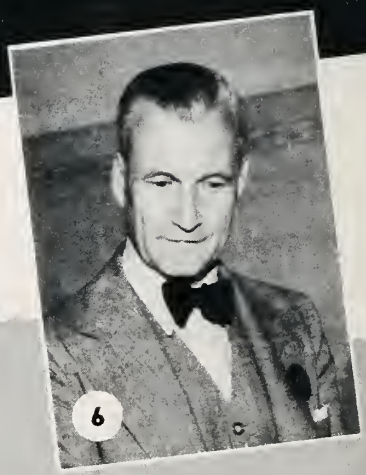
1. Songbird of the South, Kate Smith, staged her radio show in Memorial Hall for the Regiment and had a gay time with the cadets later.

2. & 3. Appearing as special guests on the Kate Smith Hour were movie stars Jane Wyatt and George Murphy (pix 2) and Marine Ace, Maj. John Smith, USMCR (pix 3) shown chatting with Master of Ceremonies Ted Collins.

4. Lovely Helen O'Connell, radio singing star who formerly held the vocalist spotlight with Jimmy Dorsey's band, warmed the boys with her sweet warbling at a station Smoker.

5. The State Legislature at Raleigh, Governor J. M. Broughton, and the Council of State took a day off to come to Chapel Hill and see how the Navy is preparing its pilots to bomb the Axis to defeat. The dignitories, however, did more than casually observe, as demonstrated here by N. C. Representative W. L. Lumpkin (left) and Lieutenant Governor Reginald Horris (right). Third man in the ring was Hon. Jasephus Daniels, former Secretary of the Navy.

6. Distinguished diplomatic visitor was Henrik de Kauffmann, Danish minister to the United States.

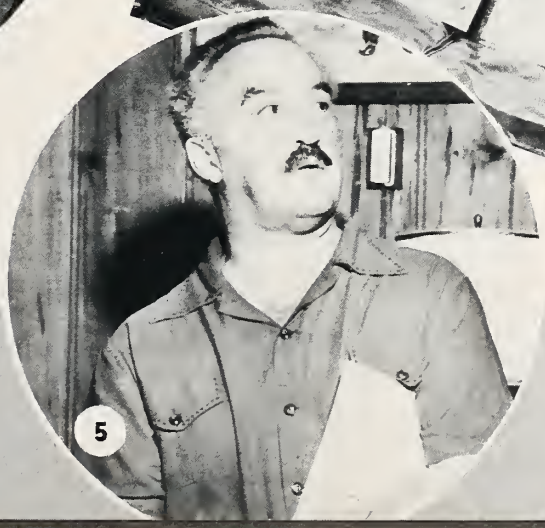


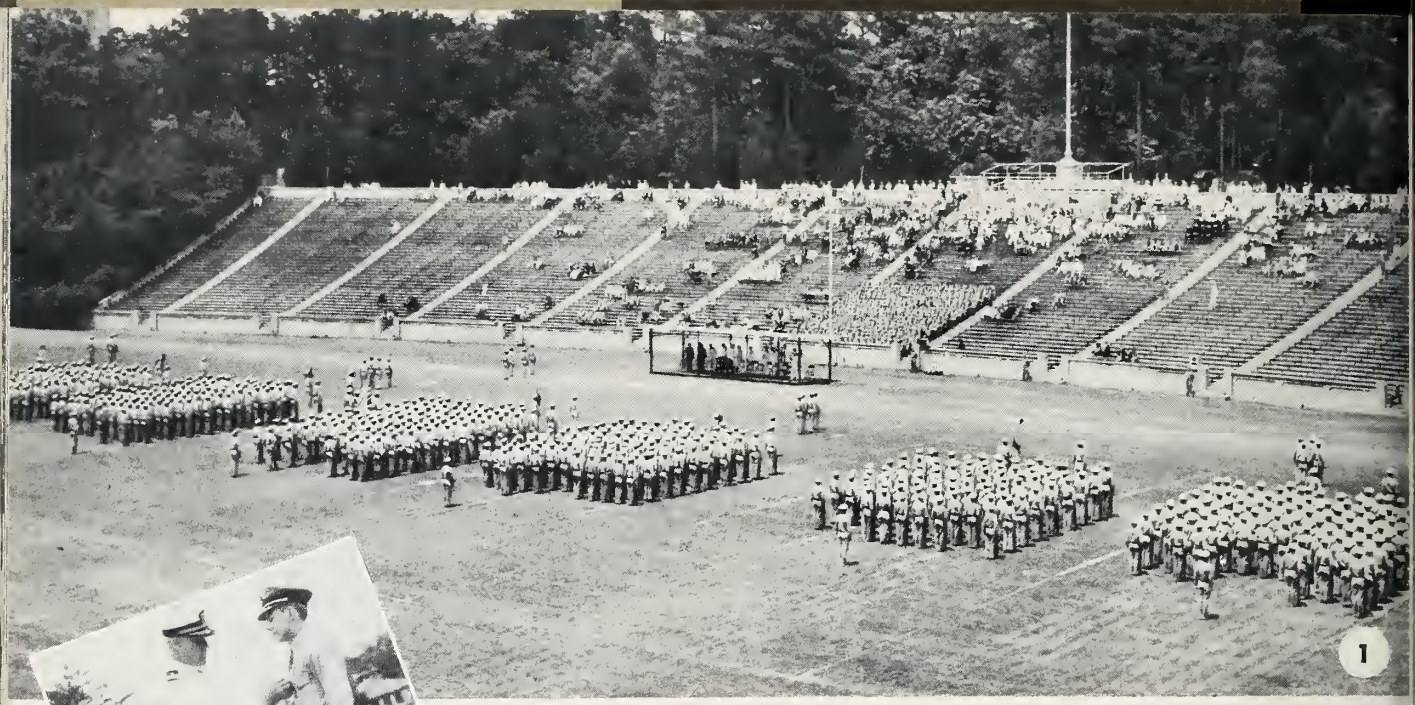
1. It must have been a base hit which brought this happy response from "Johnny" of Philip Morris fame and cadets at a Cloudbuster baseball game.

2. Coming aboard to prepare a Pre-Flight movie short for the Grantland Rice Sportlight, Rod Warren and Russ Ervin ran into a succession of rainy days. They eventually completed the assignment, but not before earning the title, "Mildew Twins".

3. Artist Don Freeman, who illustrated Saroyan's "The Human Comedy", used brush and colors to record his impressions of Pre-Flight life.

4. & 5. Among the many newsmen who viewed the program here were Ray Tucker (pix 4), author of the "National Whirligig" column, and J. P. McEvoy (pix 5), roving editor for The Readers Digest.





HAPPY *Anniversary*

■ Naval aviation's lusty infant, the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School at Chapel Hill, N. C., celebrated the first annivarsary of its commissioning, May 23, 1943.

1. A Regimental Review in Kenan Stadium featured the festivity.

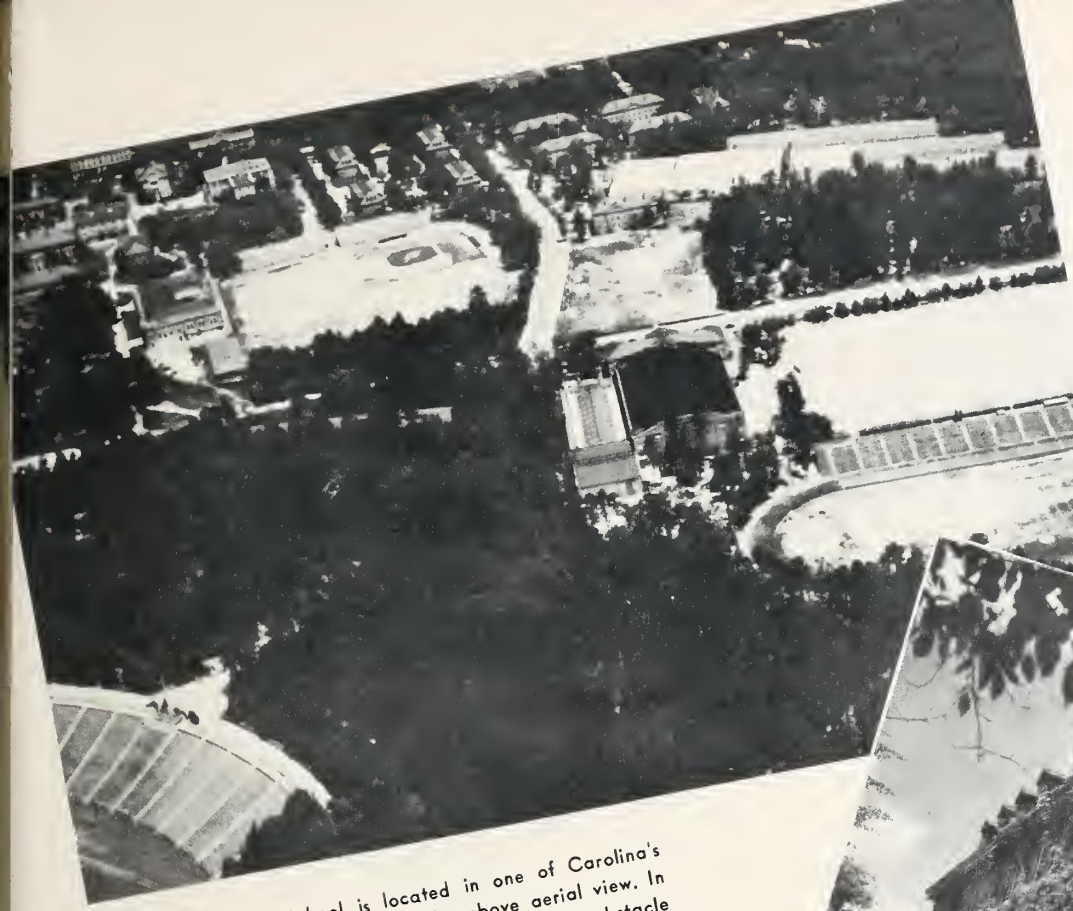
2. As a special highlight of the occasian, Camdr. John P. Graff, U.S.N. (Ret.), Cammanding Officer, presented Cadet Anthony E. Kujawinski, af the 22nd Battalion, with the Silver Star Medal "far gallantry and intrepidity in actian" against the enemy.

3. Dean Francis F. Bradshaw, af the University af Narth Caralina, extended the University's greetings ta the Pre-Flight Schaal.

4. Passing in Review.

Snapshots

Snapshots



How the Pre-Flight School is located in one of Carolina's heavily wooded areas is shown by the above aerial view. In the lower right is Fetzer Field which is circled by the obstacle course. Woollen gymnasium is above and to the left of Fetzer Field. The cadet dormitories are in the middle of the top.

A cadet dormitory, where few wakeful hours are spent.

Navy Hall, new colonial style structure completed in March, 1943, serves as reception center for the school, also houses the Public Relations Office and Post Office.

Academic classes assemble in Caldwell Hall.

The Synthetic Devices building affers a variety of educatianal training devices for the amusement af cadets during leisure hours.

The Marine Armory, where small firearms far military drill and practice are kept.

Lenair Dining Hall—a ladestone at mealtime.

Executed by
Francis Lavergne Johnson
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All Action, Activity and
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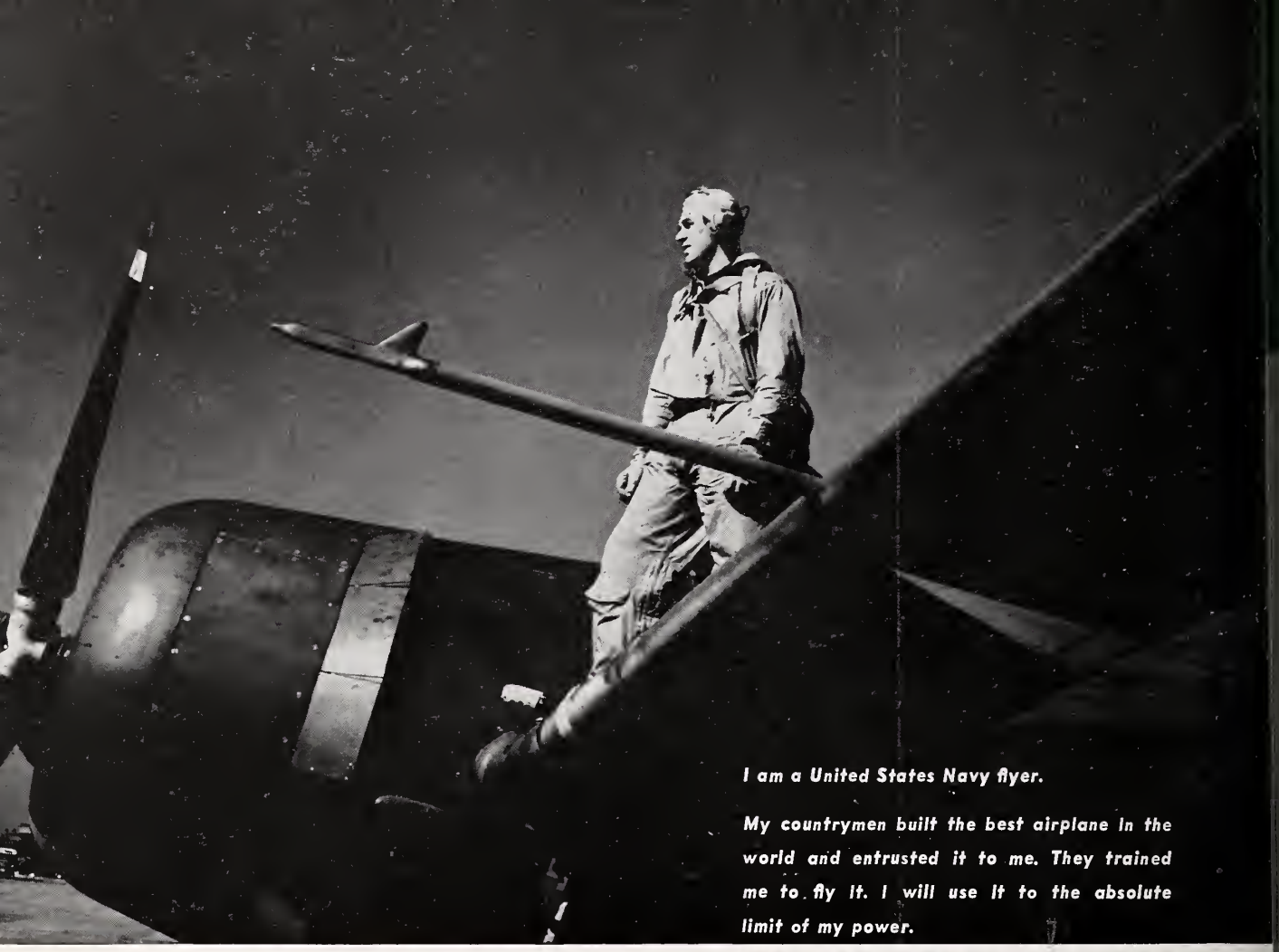


A NAVY FLYER'S CREED

I am a United States Navy flyer.

My countrymen built the best airplane in the world and entrusted it to me. They trained me to fly it. I will use it to the absolute limit of my power.

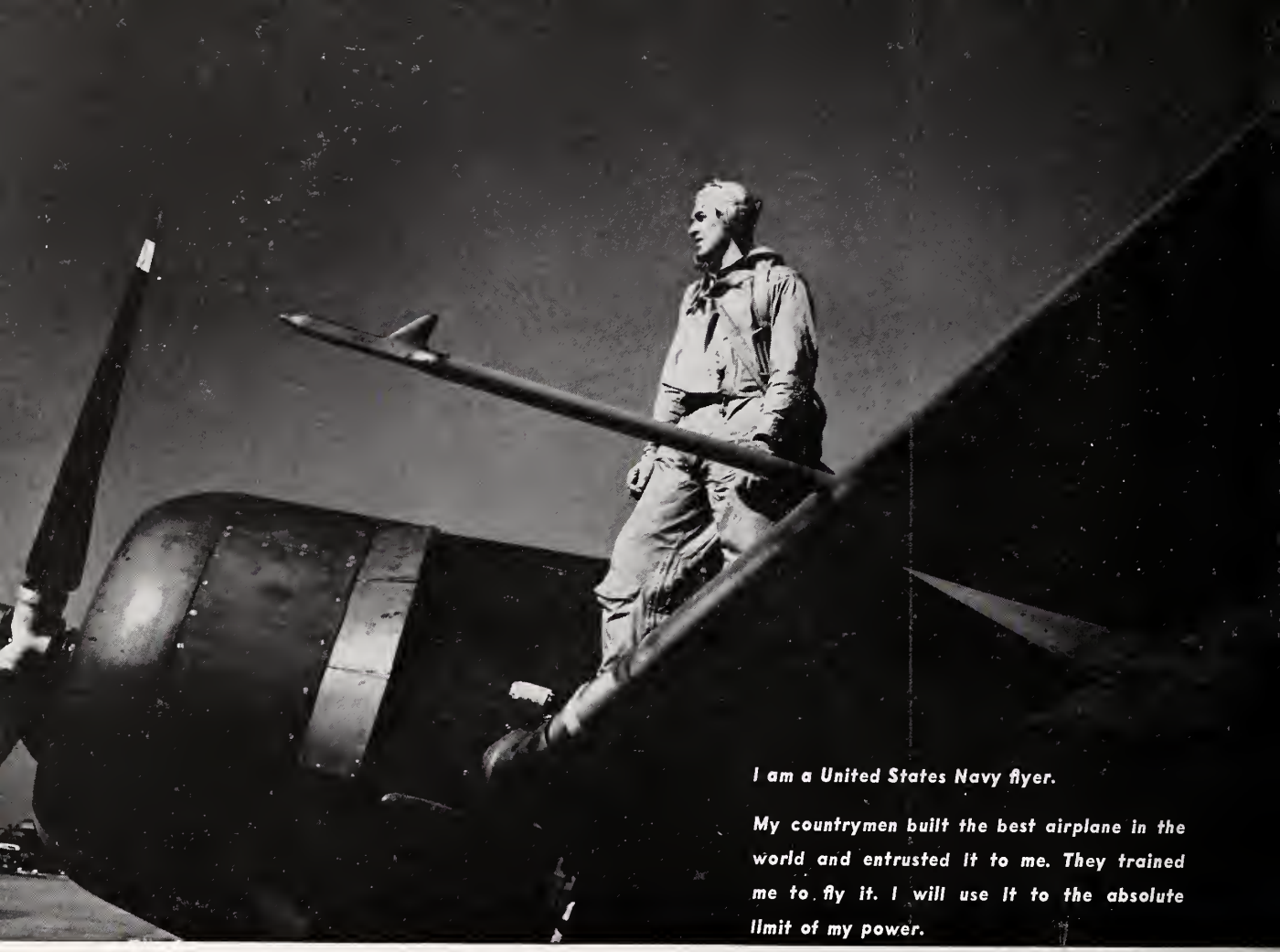
With my fellow pilots, air crews, and deck crews, my plane and I will do anything necessary to carry out our tremendous responsibilities. I will always remember we are part of an unbeatable combat team—the United States Navy.

When the going is fast and rough, I will not falter. I will be uncompromising in every blow I strike. I will be humble in victory.

I am a United States Navy flyer.

I have dedicated myself to my country, with its many millions of all races, colors, and creeds. They and their way of life are worthy of my greatest protective effort.

I ask the help of God in making that effort great enough.



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